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Air Pouch

WSSA-639

Chief, Foreign Branch W

27 August 1948

Tilestone Operation  
Tilestone

REFERENCES: a) WSSA-613  
b) WSSA-619  
c) LSS-52 dated 22 November 1946  
d) LSS-78 dated 11 December 1946

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

KAPOK

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1. Recent developments reported by [ ] regarding the TILESTONE Operation and the pending expedition to Jig area have changed the original plan considerably. It will be recalled that [ ] originally put us in contact with TILESTONE.
2. The remote cause for the development of the rather unfavorable situation which has arisen can be attributed in part to the ever-present political struggle going on between the various factions of the numerous refugee groups. However, the immediate or direct cause of this disturbance appears to be the result of security violations on the part of TILESTONE, and/or perhaps the ambitious intentions of his associate. He is now openly being accused by an associate, STANEIKA (subject of ref. d) of violating basic security measures, such as, talking too openly and associating with suspect or questionable individuals. It appears that as a result of real or fancied grievances TILESTONE and STANEIKA had an altercation and as a result STANEIKA decided to discredit TILESTONE.
3. STANEIKS's first action, after breaking working relations with Tilestone, was to attempt to discredit him before the local Lithuanian Democratic Committee. This group seemingly was not particularly favorable to Tilestone, and thus became an easy mark for STANEIKS's accusations. The result

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being that the committee took action, in effect, to oust TILESTONE from the organization and no longer recognize him as a responsible individual to maintain the liaison between the Lithuan Underground and the Lithuanian contacts abroad.

4. It seems that TILESTONE had confided in STANEIKA as to developments and the project was rather well known to him. This is not unusual as STANEIKA was working with him and would necessarily be aware of the other travellers, etc. STANEIKA, in an effort to discredit TILESTONE still further, arranged to meet [ ] and thus tell as much as possible regarding the past activities of TILESTONE. During the conversation he related several alleged instances of subject's insecurity through carelessness. He cited subject's recent dismissal from the refugee organization in support of his statements and cast general suspicion on TILESTONE. He also alleged to [ ] that TILESTONE was maintaining contact with the British IS in Stockholm, and was being paid monthly for this service. He also told of TILESTONE's having passed to the British the information regarding the tentative expedition to be sent to Jig land, together with the code to be used, transmission schedules, etc.
5. This information upset [ ] considerably as it seemed he had personally placed much confidence in TILESTONE. The subject's contact with the British appeared to annoy him particularly. During the conversation no mention was made of the Americans. (It is quite probable that subject's contact with the Americans is unknown to STANEIKA.)
6. STANEIKA next contacted TIMENOU (subject of ref c), a former member of this group, and related the entire situation to him. TIMENOU at this time, has no interest in these affairs as he had long past stepped out of this activity. However, upon hearing the situation as it had developed, he decided it was best we be informed of these events, his desire being to protect us from any embarrassment and feeling a certain responsibility as he originally placed us in contact with TILESTONE.
7. On the following day [ ] contacted TIMENOU for the purpose of confirming any or all of the statements made by STANEIKA, and also to get his opinion on the situation. TIMENOU stated he had long previously ceased work with the group and therefore knew nothing that could be helpful.

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The situation was discussed in a general way and [ ] made no attempt to press him further.

8. We have since learned from TIMENOU (who had been informed by STANEIKA) that the expedition as outlined in our references a and b has been abandoned. Instead the TIEBARS have decided to send one Latvian, one Estonian and one Lithuanian. The Lithuanian selected by [ ] was sworn to secrecy and was to have contact only with the TIEBARS. This man has, however, already passed information of the revised expedition to STANEIKA. This expedition was to principally carry out the same mission as outlined previously. All codes, transmitting schedules, etc. were to be changed and to be kept by [ ] until departure. The tentative date of departure for this group was 25 or 26 August.
9. During these developments we had no word from TILESTONE since our reference report a). It is understood (from his discussions with TIMENOU) that [ ] intends to avoid any open break with TILESTONE but will instead isolate him from any further operations and as much as possible curtail his activities.
10. [ ] has indicated to [ ] that a certain insecurity on the part of one of their members was making necessary a change of plans regarding the proposed expedition. No alternate plan was mentioned at the time. He was not pressed for details other than being informed of our natural interest. This meeting took place the day after his meeting with TIMENOU. He did mention in passing that he had been slightly concerned over the fact that one BUGA (probably identical with Gintautas BUGA, subject of WSSA-528 of 10 June 48) may have learned of the project. BUGA had in turn been associating with a "Balt woman" who has now disappeared. It should be mentioned that a recheck with [ ] on BUGA failed to develop any substantiation of his suspicions of BUGA.
11. We were, of course, highly concerned over developments but did not wish to press the matter pending the TIEBARS' decision, presumably being held in abeyance awaiting the return of [ ] from his vacation. It is further complicated by the fact that we are not sure whether TILESTONE is aware that he has been discredited to [ ].

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12. The entire matter will be followed closely and you will be advised. We are taking no action as it may well resolve itself into another refugee group internal uprising which will be settled amicably.

[ ]

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